

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of configuring network devices comprising:
2 preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page comprising a
3 form having a plurality of input fields and a submit button;
4 associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining information about
5 a state of a particular network device, and a second submit method for
6 changing the state of the particular network device;
7 sending the page to the client process; and
8 in response to activation of the submit button in the client process, executing routines
9 to operate on the particular network device based on a submit method
10 associated with the form.

1 2. A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein the form includes a hidden variable having a
2 value for uniquely identifying the particular network device.

1 3. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein said executing routines to operate on the
2 particular network device comprises,
3 determining whether a first variable for data input associated with the first
4 submit method is empty, and
5 if it is determined that the first variable is not empty, then
6 executing get routines to obtain information about the state of the
7 particular network device, and
8 assigning values for the plurality of input fields based on the
9 information about the state of the particular network device;
10 and
11 wherein the method further comprises sending the page to the client process including
12 the form with the second submit method after said assigning.

1 4. A method as recited in Claim 3, wherein said executing routines to operate on the
2 particular network device further comprising:
3 if it is determined that the first variable is empty, then:
4 obtaining current values of the plurality of input fields from a second variable
5 associated with the second submit method; and
6 executing set routines to change the state of the particular network device based on
7 the current values of the plurality of input fields.

1 5. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
2 the first submit method is a form get method returning values of the plurality of input
3 fields in a first environmental variable; and
4 the second submit method is a form post method returning values of the plurality of
5 input fields in a second environmental variable.

1 6. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
2 the second submit method is a form get method returning values of the plurality of
3 input fields in a first environmental variable; and
4 the first submit method is a form post method returning values of the plurality of input
5 fields in a second environmental variable.

1 7. A method as recited in Claim 5, wherein the page is a Hypertext Markup Language
2 (HTML) page; the first environmental variable is a "Request.QueryString"; and the second
3 environmental variable is a Request.Form.

1 8. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the steps of preparing a page and executing
2 routines are performed by a processor configured based on statements of a scripting language
3 in a single script file.

1 9. A method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the form further comprises a reference to the
2 single script file associated with activation of the submit button.

1 10. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for
2 configuring network devices, which instructions, when executed by one or more processors,
3 cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:
4 preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page comprising a
5 form having a plurality of input fields and a submit button;
6 associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining information about
7 a state of a particular network device, and a second submit method for
8 changing the state of the particular network device;
9 sending the page to the client process; and
10 in response to activation of the submit button in the client process, executing routines
11 to operate on the particular network device based on a submit method
12 associated with the form.

1 11. A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 10, further comprising instructions
2 which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to
3 carry out the steps of:
4 during said executing routines to operate on the particular network device,
5 determining whether a first variable for data input associated with the first
6 submit method is empty, and
7 if it is determined that the first variable is not empty, then
8 executing get routines to obtain information about the state of the
9 particular network device, and
10 assigning values for the plurality of input fields based on the
11 information about the state of the particular network device;
12 and
13 sending the page to the client process including the form with the second submit
14 method after said assigning.

1 12. A computer system for configuring network devices:
2 a network interface; and
3 one or more processors connected to the network interface, the one or more
4 processors configured for
5 preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page
6 comprising a form having a plurality of input fields and a submit
7 button;
8 associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining
9 information about a state of a particular network device, and a second
10 submit method for changing the state of the particular network device;
11 sending the page to the client process; and
12 in response to activation of the submit button in the client process, executing
13 routines to operate on the particular network device based on a submit
14 method associated with the form.

1 13. An apparatus for configuring network devices, the apparatus comprising:
2 a means for preparing a page for sending to a client process from a server, the page
3 comprising a form having a plurality of input fields and a submit button;
4 a means for associating with the form one of a first submit method for obtaining
5 information about a state of a particular network device, and a second submit
6 method for changing the state of the particular network device;
7 a means for sending the page to the client process; and
8 a means for executing routines to operate on the particular network device, in
9 response to activation of the submit button in the client process based on a
10 submit method associated with the form.